

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claim 1 in accordance with the following:

1. (Currently Amended) A clamping mechanism for an injection molding machine, having a stationary platen securely mounted on a base of the injection molding machine and a rear platen movable on the base with respect to the stationary platen, the rear platen being disposed opposite to the stationary platen, the clamping mechanism comprising:

guide faces formed at either one of the rear platen and the base; and

adjusting mechanisms fixed to the other of the rear platen and the base in such a manner as to freely abut against the guide faces;

wherein each adjusting mechanism abuts against each guide face such that the adjusting mechanism may adjust the inclination of the rear platen with respect to the stationary platen in a horizontal direction relative to a vertical axis of the rear platen; and

wherein each adjusting mechanism has a position of at least one element of the adjusting mechanism that is adjustable against the guide face is varied in order to adjust the inclination of the rear platen in at the horizontal direction relative to the vertical axis of the rear platen.

2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) The clamping mechanism for an injection molding machine according to claim 1, wherein each of the guide faces is formed at the inside surface of a base frame forming the base, and each of the adjusting mechanisms is disposed under the rear platen.

5. (Previously Presented) The clamping mechanism for an injection molding machine according to claim 1, wherein each of the guide faces is formed at a side surface in the lower portion of the rear platen, and each of the adjusting mechanisms is mounted on the base.

6. (Previously Presented) The clamping mechanism for an injection molding machine according to claim 1, wherein each of the adjusting mechanisms is provided with a fixing shaft having a leg and a head deviated from the axis of the leg and a rotary roller rotating around the head of the fixing shaft, and is fixed to the rear platen or the base in such a manner that the rotary roller abuts against the guide face.

7. (Previously Presented) The clamping mechanism for an injection molding machine according to claim 1, wherein each of the adjusting mechanisms comprises a fixing member having a slope and a slide plate having a slope adapted to come into contact with the slope of the fixing member, said fixing member being attached to said base or said rear platen in a manner such that the slope of the fixing member is opposite one of the guide faces, and said slide plate being attached to the fixing member so that the face of the slide plate, opposite the slope thereof, comes into contact with said guide face, allowing the slide plate to penetrate between the guide face and the slope of the fixing member.

8. (Previously Presented) The clamping mechanism for an injection molding machine according to claim 1, wherein each of the adjusting mechanisms includes a fixing member fixed to the base or the rear platen, a screw screwed to the fixing member and a plate disposed at the tip of the screw, the plate sliding with respect to one of the guide faces.

9. (Previously Presented) The clamping mechanism for an injection molding machine according to claim 1, wherein each of the adjusting mechanisms includes a fixing member fixed to the base or the rear platen, a screw screwed to the fixing member and a plate with a roller disposed at the tip of the screw, the roller rolling with respect to the guide face.

10. (Previously Presented) A clamping mechanism for an injection molding machine, comprising:

- a base;
 - a rear platen movable on the base;
 - at least two guide faces each formed at an inside surface of the base; and
 - at least two adjusting mechanisms, each adjusting mechanism fixed to and disposed under the rear platen, each adjusting mechanism abutting against one of the guide faces and having at least one element that adjusts against the guide face;
- wherein each adjusting mechanism is adjustable such that the rear platen is inclined in a

horizontal direction relative to a vertical axis of the rear platen.

11. (Previously Presented) A clamping mechanism for an injection molding machine, comprising:

- a base;

- a rear platen movable on the base, the moving platen having a lower portion;

- at least two guide faces each formed at a side surface in the lower portion of the rear platen; and

- at least two adjusting mechanisms, each adjusting mechanism mounted on the base, each adjusting mechanism abutting against one of the guide faces and having at least one element that adjusts against the guide face; and

wherein each adjusting mechanism is adjustable such that the rear platen is inclined in a horizontal direction relative to a vertical axis of the rear platen.